

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending. Claims 1, 3, and 5 have been amended. New claim 7 has been added. No new matter has been introduced. Reexamination and reconsideration of the present application are respectfully requested.

In the April 16, 2004 Office Action, the Examiner allowed claim 6, rejected claims 1-4, and objected to claim 5. The Examiner rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 9-326122. The §102(b) rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner objected to claim 5 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that such claim would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claim 5 in accordance with the Examiner's remarks. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 5, as amended, is in condition for allowance.

The present invention relates to an optical disk recording apparatus for recording desired information onto an optical disk having wobbled recording tracks. The optical disk recording apparatus is capable of high-accuracy wobble extraction and pre-pit detection during recording.

Independent claim 1, as amended, recites:

An optical disk recording apparatus for recording information onto an optical disk having a wobbled recording track by irradiation of a recording light beam having power modulated in accordance with a recording signal, said optical disk recording apparatus comprising a push-pull signal processing circuit including:

a push-pull signal generation circuit arranged to generate a push-pull signal based on a reflected -light detection signal representative of a reflection of the recording light beam off the optical disk; and

a gain variation circuit arranged to vary gain of either the reflected-light detection signal in response to modulation of the recording light beam coming onto the optical disk, or the push-pull signal generated by said push-pull signal generation circuit in response to modulation of the recording light beam coming onto the optical disk, to thereby suppress a level of variation of the push-pull signal caused by the modulation of the recording light beam coming onto the optical disk.

The JP9-326122 reference does not disclose, teach, or suggests the apparatus of independent claim 1, as amended. Unlike independent claim 1, as amended, the JP9-326122 reference does not disclose a gain variation circuit arranged to vary gain of the reflected-light detection signal in response to modulation of the recording light beam coming onto the optical disk.

However the JP9-326122 reference discloses an optical disk **reading apparatus that irradiates a reading light beam**. The reading light beam utilizes a constant beam power without any modulation so that a gain varying circuit cannot vary gain of the reflected-light detection signal in response to modulation of the reading light beam coming onto the optical disk because the reading light beam coming onto the optical disk is without any modulation.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1, as amended, distinguishes over the JP9-326122 reference.

Claims 2 and 4 directly depend from independent claim 1, as amended.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 2 and 4 distinguish over the JP9-326122 reference for the reasons set forth about with respect to independent claim 1, as amended.

Independent claim 3, as amended, recites limitations similar to claim 1, as amended. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 3, as amended, distinguishes over the JP9-326122 reference for the reasons set forth about with respect to independent claim 1, as amended.

New independent claim 7 recites limitations similar to claim 1, as amended. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 7 distinguishes over the JP9-326122 reference for the reasons set forth about with respect to independent claim 1, as amended.

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Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance, and a favorable action is respectfully requested. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call either of the undersigned attorneys at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance should the Examiner believe that such a telephone conference would advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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